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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/802,184 | 03/17/2004 | Katsumasa Yoshii | 9281-4777 | 3862 |

7590 05/02/2006

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Chicago, IL 60610

EXAMINER

DUDEK, JAMES A

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2871

DATE MAILED: 05/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/802,184

Applicant(s)

YOSHII ET AL.

Examiner

James A. Dudek

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2006.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) 5-13 and 17 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent US006380995B1 (995).

Per claims 1, 3, 6 and 14, 995 teaches a transfective film which is formed between a liquid crystal display panel and an illuminating device for illuminating the liquid crystal display panel from the backside of the liquid crystal display panel [22] and in which a plurality of fine concave or convex portions is formed one surface thereof [24] and openings for transmitting light are formed at positions corresponding to pixels of the liquid crystal display panel [33], wherein an interval between at least one side of each of the openings and the edge of each of the pixels is smaller than the width of one concave or convex portion [figures 2-5 show the openings as being shorter than a concave/convex portion, furthermore the first three paragraph of column 4 support the figures].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 4 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over 995.

Per claim 2, 995 teaches the transfective film according to claim 1, but lacks the interval is set in the range of 0.1 to 5.0 microns. However, it was well known to form the

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concave/convex intervals having a length of 0.1-5.0 microns in order to improve dispersion of the reflected light. Accordingly it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of invention to combine the well-known interval with 421.

Per claims 4 and 15, 995 lack the light shielding layer formed on the transfective layer. However, it was well known to use light shielding layers to improve contrast. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention.

Per claim 16, 995 lacks the color filter for above both the openings and reflective regions. However, it was well known to use color filter for producing color images. Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-13 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

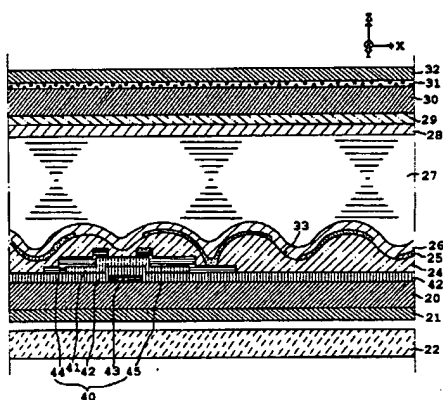
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Response to Arguments

Regarding applicant's argument that the claims specifically call for an interval between at least one side of each of the openings and an edge of each of the pixels is smaller than a width of one concave or convex portion, the 995 reference teaches this limitation.



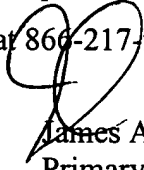
As seen from the figure above, the "at least one side of each of the openings" is the left side of opening 33 above, that is, the point where the smaller portion of pixel electrode 25 meets the opening. "[T]he edge of each of the pixels" is the point where the left side of the same small pixel electrode 25 meets the adjacent opening. This distance is smaller than the width of one concave or convex portion. The opening or the pixel electrode is smaller than the width of the concave/convex portion.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Dudek whose telephone number is 571-272-2290. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on 571-272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



James A. Dudek
Primary Examiner
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